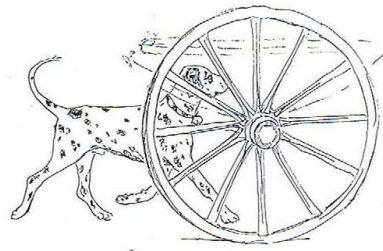


The Dalmatian – a carriage dog

The Dalmatian's role in the UK as carriage dogs began in the 17th century. Young English aristocrats visiting Europe were attracted to the spotted dogs and brought some home. The unusual strength in their feet and legs enabled them to run for great distances on the rough roads which, together with their affinity with horses, made them ideal carriage dogs.



The dogs had to keep pace with the horses on hard roads over long distances. Their strong guarding instincts made them useful when travelling and at night in the inns.

The Carriage Dog Trials

The purpose of the Trials is to provide a modern competition through which to demonstrate the Dalmatian dog's traditional role as a companion to horses and carriages in past times. It is both an endurance and obedience event and all competitors must do a basic obedience test, from their horse or carriage, with their dog as part of the Trial.

The Trials test the dog's willingness to work, its obedience, and its ability to keep up at speed. Its physical condition is also assessed by a vet as part of the test. Dogs which qualify earn the title of Road or Carriage Dog bronze, silver or gold depending on the distance covered.

For information about the Trials visit www.carriagedog.org or contact Alison Burgess on info@carriagedog.org.



British Carriage Dog Society

The Society was established in July 2006 and exists:

- 🐾 To preserve the working heritage of the Dalmatian
- 🐾 To run national Trials
- 🐾 To encourage common standards for all Carriage Dog Trials
- 🐾 To offer advice and support

Becoming a member of the Society gives you the opportunity to support the Dalmatian in its traditional role. You will get a regular newsletter and access to information and events. To join the Society, please complete the form overleaf.

